

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Peru
Program Title:	Democratic Strengthening
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	527-009
Status:	Continuing
Proposed FY 2003 Obligation:	\$3,026,000 DA; \$10,000,000 ESF
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$1,672,000 DA; \$9,000,000 ESF
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 2002
Estimated Completion Date:	FY 2007

Summary: USAID's program to strengthen democratic processes and institutions in critical areas includes the provision of technical assistance and training to promote key policy reforms; increase the capacity of regional and local governments; enhance Congressional oversight and legislative capacity; improve the performance of selected justice institutions; and facilitate the efforts of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in investigating past human rights abuses. USAID will support anti-corruption measures within each of these program areas.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2003 Program:

Increased peruvian citizen participation in the adoption and implementation of key policy reforms (\$3,026,000 DA and \$550,000 ESF). USAID will finance the second year of activities initiated by three civil society coalitions focused on the development, promotion and oversight of key policy reforms related to decentralization, Congressional operations and the justice sector. Funding will also be used to provide technical input for anti-corruption activities aimed at promoting a more transparent and accountable governing system. Major contractors/grantees are three civil society coalitions led by Catholic Relief Services and the Peruvian non-governmental organizations, Manuela Ramos Movement and the Institute for Legal Defense.

Increased support for decentralization and strengthening of local governments (\$4,300,000 ESF). USAID will finance a management and public administration training and technical assistance program for regional, provincial and district governments, as well as community groups, in the seven departments that comprise USAID's geographic focus area in Peru. USAID will also provide policy support for the decentralization process in general, including strengthening the National Decentralization Council. Additionally, USAID will assist the State Contracts and Acquisition Council to simplify the governmental procurement process and the Controller General to strengthen accountability. Major contractors/grantees include the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, the National Decentralization Council, the Office of the Controller General, the State Contracts and Acquisition Council and a U.S. contractor to be selected.

Congressional reform (\$550,000 ESF). Funding will be used to support the start-up of a congressional research center, provide technical expertise for committees in selected areas of interest (such as those related to decentralization, access to government information, justice sector and constitutional reforms), and support public hearings on draft legislation. The prime contractor providing technical assistance and training is the State University of New York (SUNY).

Justice sector reform (\$4,600,000 ESF). In this area, USAID will strengthen the public defender service and expand a pilot program to reduce the percentage of prison detainees who have not been sentenced. Support for the Ombudsman will focus on increasing its role in promoting public sector modernization and expanding its presence in alternative development areas. A major new justice sector activity will focus on strengthening the selection/ratification process and disciplinary procedures for judges, training on commercial issues, redistributing court resources to match types of cases through the establishment of

judicial circuits, and a pilot program to improve the processing of commercial dispute and criminal cases in Lima and alternative development areas. USAID may also provide resources to help apply the recommendations made by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. In addition, Andean Counterdrugs Initiative funds referenced in the Alternative Development Program Data Sheet (527-013) may be used for a community-police relations program in the alternative development areas. Major contractors/grantees include the Peruvian Ministry of Justice, the Office of the Ombudsman and a U.S. contractor to be selected.

FY 2004 Program:

Increase peruvian citizen participation in the adoption and implementation of key policy reforms (\$1,672,000 DA and \$500,000 ESF). USAID will continue to support the civil society coalitions mentioned above, to include increased emphasis on anti-corruption. Major contractors/grantees are not expected to change.

Increased support for decentralization and strengthening of local governments (\$3,700,000 ESF). USAID will continue to support the decentralization process. Technical assistance and training will be expanded to cover local and regional governments and community groups in an additional 125 locations. Major contractors/grantees are not expected to change.

Congressional reform (\$1,100,000 ESF). Assuming progress towards implementing the recommendations included in the Congressional strategic plan, additional funding may be provided to improve internal management systems, increase the quality of the legislative process and promote other reforms that increase transparency and citizen participation. Major contractors/grantees are not expected to change.

Justice sector reform (\$3,700,000 ESF). USAID plans to continue support to the Ombudsman, to include further expanding its presence in areas where coca is produced. In addition, USAID will support the implementation of the criminal procedures code and the expansion of specialized training for justice sector personnel to improve the handling of critical commercial and criminal cases. Major contractors/grantees are not expected to change.

Performance and Results: In the aftermath of the collapse of the Fujimori Government and the successful 2001 elections, the enthusiasm of the new Government of Peru (GOP), and Peruvians in general, to pursue a course of democratic reform presented USAID with opportunities to provide catalytic support for key processes and institutions. While the broader democracy program outlined above was largely in a design and start-up phase during FY 2002, USAID, working through civil society coalitions, the GOP, and USAID's Office of Transition Initiatives (OTI), provided timely support in priority areas and lay the groundwork for longer-term institutional development programs. With USAID's assistance over the last year, the GOP initiated a decentralization process, including passage of a law outlining a phased approach to transfer resources and responsibilities to sub-national government entities. It also signed regional "governability" agreements based on the National Accords reached by all political parties and representatives of civil society. USAID's efforts helped the Congress establish mechanisms to consult with constituents on key issues. With USAID's assistance, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission collected over 13,000 testimonies that will form the basis of the final report (due in July 2003) and Ombudsman attended over 50,000 complaints (ranging from human rights abuses to corruption), resolving more than 80% of the cases, and began opening offices in the more remote regions of the country where coca is grown and political/social violence is most common. Through support to the Controller General, USAID helped the GOP identify and respond to corruption issues that could be obstacles to the decentralization of resources and responsibilities to sub-national government units. By 2006, key constitutional reforms related to the balance of governmental power, reform of the electoral system and the judiciary, the independence of government institutions and the structure of sub-national government will be in place and maintained. Citizen approval of the performance of government institutions will have improved significantly, and key decentralization policies will be in place with broad input from civil society. More than 80% of the targeted local governments will have been certified to receive greater authorities and resources.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Peru

527-009 Democratic Strengthening	DA	ESF
Through September 30, 2001		
Obligations	0	0
Expenditures	0	0
Unliquidated	0	0
Fiscal Year 2002		
Obligations	0	0
Expenditures	0	0
Through September 30, 2002		
Obligations	0	0
Expenditures	0	0
Unliquidated	0	0
Prior Year Unobligated Funds		
Obligations	0	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2003 NOA		
Obligations	3,026	10,000
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2003		
Obligations	3,026	10,000
Proposed Fiscal Year 2004 NOA		
Obligations	1,672	9,000
Future Obligations	0	0
Est. Total Cost	4,698	19,000